



Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd

Agenda board meeting 10; 30 a.m. 5 July 2011, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne.

1. Minute of previous meeting 3 May 2011
2. Business arising from the meeting of 3 May 2011
 - 2.1 CFNSW – TO report
 - 2.2 Co-operative Education – TO report. New Co-op College brochure has been circulated to directors and has been uploaded to <http://education.victoria.coop> Two possible workshops have been suggested – with Tasmanian co-ops and co-operative housing societies.
 - 2.3 CAV – TO to report
 - 2.4 Co-operatives Australia – TO report Co-operativesWA is pulling out of any national activities. NZCA has sought CA sponsorship of a conference in 2012 – Qld supports, WA is cautious and SA and NSW have not responded.
 - 2.5 Co-operatives National Law – DG report
 - 2.6 International Year of Co-operatives – TO report on his attendance at the IYC Steering Committee meeting. In 2012 there will be IYC Commemorative Coin and pre paid envelopes and possible coverage in the Australian Year Book.
 - 2.7 Tasmanian Co-operatives – TO report on follow-up to the meeting with the Tasmanian co-operatives. The Tasmanian Co-ops have been kept in the loop with IYC 2012 mail outs and the Co-op College brochure.
 - 2.8 Letter to Trent Bartlett – DG and TO report
 - 2.9 Visits to Victorian co-operatives – TO report
3. Financial Statements – deferred in the absence of David Dinning
4. Other Matters



Minute board meeting 10:30 am 3 May 2011, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

PRESENT: Niel Black, Tony O'Shea (Chairman), David Dinning, Shirley Farm and David Griffiths (Secretary)

APOLOGIES: Diane Batterham and Rowan Dowland

1. Minute

That the minute of the board meeting of 3 February 2011 be accepted as a true and accurate record.
CARRIED

3. Business arising from meeting of 3 February 2011:

3.1 CFNSW

Chairman to report on any contact with CFNSW Chairman, Tony Rogic, since the last board meeting.

2.2 Co-operative Education

Feedback from the Co-operative Identity workshop held on 22 November 2010 at Heritage Hill Museum, Dandenong on 22 November 2010 was circulated with the agenda.

The Secretary noted that the feedback was predominantly positive but directors wanted to see any comments that had been provided,

It was also noted that Mervyn Wilson (UK Co-operative College) was still interested in visiting Australia to discuss co-operative schools in the UK. Additional information had been circulated to directors as a basis for further discussion. The information was noted but no decision made.

It was noted that Rowan Dowland was hoping that the work of the Co-operative College could be extended through the Credit Union Foundation.

2.3 CAV

The Chairman reported briefly on his meeting with Alexander Seccombe, Ministerial Advisor on Consumer Affairs to Mr. Michael O'Brien MLA, Minister for Consumer Affairs on 4 February 2011. He advised that he was hoping to organise a second meeting shortly.

ACTION: Chairman

2.4 Co-operatives Australia

It was noted that Co-operatives Australia met on the 28 April 2011.

The Secretary reported that CA had finalised its third Top 100 list and that David Dinning had helped me to verify financial turnover figures. He distributed copies to directors - Australia's Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutuals by Annual Turnover (April 2011). He said that the third list included:

Total number of members Australia

Total number of employees Australia

Top 10 with the most members.

Top 10 with the most employees.

Turnover of Top 100 by States.

Turnover of Top 100 by Industry

He noted that the second list had been distributed in the national mail out to about 20000 co-operatives, credit unions and mutuals with SBA funding the copying and mailing of the list and that this gave the list significant exposure that would otherwise not be possible.

He reported that while the third list had more depth than the first two, there was a need to better resource the preparation of the list beyond the current capacity and willingness of the CA and individual federations. He reported that through our involvement with the National IYC Steering Committee, ABACUS Australian Mutuals was about to enter discussions with Co-operatives Australia about these resourcing requirements and will provide staff or financial resources up to the value of \$5000 for the 2012 list. A further aim for 2012 would be for the list to be published in the mainstream media.

Some directors queried the value of the list and what purpose it served e.g. so what if Murray Goulburn had more employees than any other co-operative, credit union or mutual in Australia.

2.5 Co-operatives National Law

The Secretary reported that a draft bill might be released in May 2011 based on information provided by NSW Fair Trading.

2.6 International Year of Co-operatives

It was noted there had been a limited response to the National IYY Steering Committee mail out:

Inner City Clay Cooperative (state?)

CoHousing South Hobart

Cooperative Housing Societies NSW

Casterton Community Cooperative Ltd (Vic)

Cooperative Housing Societies (Qld)

CV sent a letter to the 23 registered co-operatives in Tasmania on 11 January 2011. A meeting has now been organised for the 9 May 2011. The agenda for the meeting was emailed on 20 April 2011 asking for interest in a meeting to discuss IYC 2012, a co-operative federation for Tasmania and Co-operatives National Law.

Tony O'Shea will be representing Co-operatives Victoria. Given that up to 7 -10 co-operatives and 12-20 co-operators will be at the meeting, this is a high proportion of the number of registered co-operatives.

Following the national mail out by the IYC National Steering Committee and SBA, a CV letter on IYC was sent to 123 Victorian co-operatives calling for expressions of interest in a meeting to discuss IYC 2012. The mail out included the new CV brochure. It was noted that there had been one response – a positive response from the radio station 3PBS.

It was agreed on 3 February 2011 that follow-up contact would be made with the following to establish interest in a IYC 2012 meeting:

| | |
|----------|----|
| CEHL | SF |
| MECU | DD |
| HICO | TO |
| MG | TO |
| Genetics | NB |

It was noted that directors had not asked the co-operatives about their interest in IYC 2012.

The Secretary reported that CEHL was organising a national co-operative housing conference in January or February 2012.

The Secretary reported that the National IYC Steering Committee was going to establish a web site www.australia2012.coop with David Griffiths as web master and there will be a meeting in Canberra or Sydney on the 25 May 2011 to discuss the development of the web site.

It was agreed to write to Trent Bartlett to express appreciation for the contribution he and the Capricorn Society had made to the development and understanding of co-operatives and co-operation and, in particular, IYC 2012.

3. Financial Statements

The Treasurer presented the financial statements

Profit and loss, 1 July 2010 to 02 May 2011
Balance Sheet 02 May 2011

That the financial reports be accepted. CARRIED

The Treasurer also reported that a term deposit of \$10,000 had been invested with MECU.

4. Other Matters

4.1 Annual Subscriptions

Annual Subscription notices were mailed by 30 November 2010 and it was noted that to date the following had paid the 2010-2011 Annual Subscription:

MECU \$1500
Amalgamated Taxis Watonga Co-op \$275
Avoca \$385
Northcote RHC \$275
Para Park Cooperative Game Reserve Ltd \$275
Ruach \$165
SEHC \$550
Urban Camp \$285
Nurray Goulburn \$7000
DemoDairy \$385
Pyrenees Hay Processors \$275
Southern Quality Produce Co-operative Ltd

It was noted that the following co-operatives had not paid the annual subscription:

Co-operative Development Services
Geelong Radio Cabs Co-op Ltd
Genetics Australia Co-op Ltd
Green Valley Co-op Ltd
HICO
Macalister Research Farm Co-op Ltd
Peagrowers Co-op Ltd
Pyrenees Store Co-op Ltd
Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-op Ltd
Westgate Health Co-op Ltd

It was agreed that the Chairman would visit some of these co-ops with priority being given to Genetics Australia Co-op Ltd, HICO, Macalister Research Farm Co-op Ltd, Peagrowers Co-op Ltd and the Pyrenees Store Co-op Ltd

ACTION: Chairman

4.3 Waverley Trading Co-operative.

It was noted that the co-operative had not yet been wound-up.

5. Future Meetings

5 July 2011 (DD is an apology)
6 September 2011
15 November 2011 (also AGM date)

Prepared by David Griffiths: 5 February 2011
Approved by Chairman: 5 February 2011
Emailed to directors: 5 February 2011
Snail mailed to directors: 8 February 2011

Only 7 evaluation sheets of the Co-operative Identity Workshop on 22 November 2010 were obtained. This is because the evaluation sheets were not available on the day of the workshop and were emailed to participants subsequent to the workshop. Nonetheless, the results of the 7 were very positive and, based on feedback from CEHL, representative of other participants who did not complete the evaluation forms.

